

On the evening of the 28th a low-pressure area was central over southern Alberta, with a trough extending southward to northern Utah. By the evening of the 29th the center that was over Alberta had decreased in intensity and was central over the Plains States, while in the trough that was over northern Utah on the evening of the 28th there developed a low of marked intensity. By the evening of the 30th the northern storm had moved north-eastward to western Ontario, while the southern storm was over New Mexico and by the following evening was over western Texas.

From the morning of the 29th to the evening of the 30th a high-pressure area moved from Alberta to Lake Superior, causing decided falls in temperature over the Rocky Mountain region, the Plains States, and the upper Lake region, warnings of which were issued previously.

The following weekly forecast was issued Sunday, March 31:

The distribution of atmospheric pressure over the North American Continent and the adjacent oceans is such as to indicate temperatures near the seasonal average over the greater part of the country the coming week. During Monday and Tuesday there will be a change to cooler weather in northern and middle States from the Mississippi Valley eastward, but it will be of short duration and will be quickly followed by rising temperature. The next change to colder weather will appear in the Northwest about Thursday or Friday. The precipitation during the week will probably be much less than has occurred in any one of the preceding three weeks. A depression that now covers the Southwest will likely cause local rains the first part of the week in the Southern States, and a disturbance that now prevails over Alaska will enter the Northwestern States about Tuesday, cross the Middle West Wednesday or Thursday and the Eastern States about Friday; it will be attended by a short period of local rains over the Rocky Mountain region and the districts east thereof.

The month closed with temperatures 10° to 20° above normal in the Northwest and they were also above in the Atlantic States, while from the upper Lakes to the Southern Plateau temperatures were below the seasonal average.

The following extract from the Jacksonville (Fla.) Times-Union of March 25 indicates the interest felt throughout the great crop districts in the weekly forecasts of the Weather Bureau. The information is from New Orleans, La., and dated March 24:

The weather reports from the cotton belt promise to be unfavorable because of so much rain. The general feeling is that the present long period of unsettled weather must be followed by a spell of fair weather, and the long-distance weather forecast will be eagerly looked for, and especially so because the last few weeks these weekly forecasts have been correct in the main.

NOTES ON THE WEATHER IN ALASKA FOR FEBRUARY, 1912.

By ARTHUR GIBSON, Special Observer.

On April 10, 1907, I cut holes in the ice in Bering Sea opposite the life-saving station at Nome, Alaska, 225, 700, and 1,200 feet, respectively, from the shore line and measured the thickness of the ice, depth of water from the top of the ice, and the temperature of the water at the sea bottom. This I repeated to-day, February 10, 1912, and the comparative results are as follows:

	Apr. 10, 1907.			Feb. 10, 1912.		
	Ice.	Water.	Temperature.	Ice.	Water.	Temperature.
	Feet.	Feet.	$^{\circ}$ F.	Feet.	Feet.	$^{\circ}$ F.
225 feet.....	4.75	5.25	29	2.50	7.25	31
700 feet.....	4.10	8.25	28	3.50	7.60	30
1,200 feet.....	4.50	12.00	27	2.50	11.20	29

The holes were cut in the identical same places, the sand bar at 225 feet having changed a little seaward; about 1 foot wind-drove ice on top of solid ice at 700 feet on February 12, 1912; depth of water will vary slightly by tide, thermometer in both instances secured from United States life-saving station at Nome, Alaska, and checked with my Weather Bureau thermometers and found correct.

The reason for the temperature decreasing seaward is that the water is nearly fresh along the shore under the ice where no currents mix it with the sea water.

Up to 2 weeks ago no Arctic or pack ice had been sighted at either Point Hope or Cape Prince of Wales, and at the latter place all shore ice had disappeared about 10 days ago. The solid ice at Nome extends seaward about 2 miles, beyond which the ice is more or less broken up and moving with the tide and wind.

Through the courtesy of the United States wireless stations I am receiving the daily weather reports from Dutch Harbor and St. Paul Islands, and they report: "Sea clear of ice."

I have written the missionary at Wales to kindly keep a daily log, or record, of the direction and approximate velocity of the current through Bering Straits from this on, as well as circumstances may permit, and any records thus derived will be forwarded direct to the central office.

Average temperatures and departures from the normal.

Districts.	Number of stations.	Average temperatures for the current month.	Departures for the current month.	Accumulated departures since Jan. 1.	Average departures since Jan. 1.
New England.....	12	31.4	- 1.5	-10.5	-3.5
Middle Atlantic.....	15	38.3	- 1.5	-12.2	-4.1
South Atlantic.....	10	53.4	- 0.4	- 9.3	-3.1
Florida Peninsula ¹	9	68.1	+ 1.4	- 3.9	-1.3
East Gulf.....	11	55.2	- 2.1	-10.7	-3.6
West Gulf.....	11	52.0	- 5.9	-13.4	-4.5
Ohio Valley and Tennessee.....	14	39.8	- 4.2	-19.0	-6.3
Lower Lakes.....	11	27.1	- 5.8	-21.0	-7.0
Upper Lakes.....	13	21.8	- 5.7	-24.4	-8.1
North Dakota ¹	9	15.7	- 5.1	-10.7	-3.6
Upper Mississippi Valley.....	14	28.6	- 7.4	-24.4	-8.1
Missouri Valley.....	12	28.6	- 7.5	-16.7	-5.6
Northern slope.....	10	20.6	-10.4	- 8.0	-2.7
Middle slope.....	6	32.5	-10.0	-15.1	-5.0
Southern slope ¹	8	46.3	- 6.4	-11.7	-3.9
Southern Plateau ¹	10	49.0	- 2.2	- 1.1	-0.4
Middle Plateau ¹	10	36.4	- 1.9	+ 4.6	+1.5
Northern Plateau ¹	10	35.7	- 2.5	+ 0.7	+0.2
North Pacific.....	7	43.9	- 0.3	+ 6.6	+2.2
Middle Pacific.....	7	49.4	- 1.9	+ 2.6	+0.9
South Pacific.....	4	53.3	- 1.8	+ 5.4	+1.8

¹ Regular Weather Bureau and selected cooperative stations.

Average precipitation and departures from the normal.

Districts.	Number of stations.	Average.		Departure.	
		Current month.	Percentage of normal.	Current month.	Accumulated since Jan. 1.
New England.....	11	5.54	144	+1.7	+0.5
Middle Atlantic.....	15	6.06	166	+2.4	+0.7
South Atlantic.....	11	4.97	116	+0.7	+0.7
Florida Peninsula ¹	9	3.55	120	+0.6	+3.3
East Gulf.....	11	9.33	160	+3.5	+3.8
West Gulf.....	10	4.80	155	+1.7	-0.4
Ohio Valley and Tennessee.....	14	5.91	134	+1.5	-0.7
Lower Lakes.....	10	2.64	100	0.0	-0.1
Upper Lakes.....	13	1.06	47	-1.2	-2.5
North Dakota ¹	9	0.32	31	-0.7	-1.3
Upper Mississippi Valley.....	15	2.41	100	0.0	-1.5
Missouri Valley.....	12	3.00	138	+1.1	+0.6
Northern slope.....	9	1.41	127	+0.3	0.0
Middle slope.....	6	1.81	121	+0.3	+0.6
Southern slope ¹	8	1.94	156	+0.7	0.0
Southern Plateau ¹	10	2.15	287	+1.4	-0.3
Middle Plateau ¹	11	2.02	142	+0.6	+0.1
Northern Plateau ¹	10	0.80	57	-0.6	-0.4
North Pacific.....	7	2.23	45	-2.7	-2.9
Middle Pacific.....	7	3.46	85	-0.6	-4.6
South Pacific.....	4	5.34	213	+2.8	-1.4

¹ Regular Weather Bureau and selected cooperative stations.*Average relative humidity and departure from the normal.*

Districts.	Average.	Departure from the normal.	Districts.	Average.	Departure from the normal.
New England.....	73	-2	Missouri Valley.....	78	+6
Middle Atlantic.....	75	+3	Northern slope.....	73	+6
South Atlantic.....	78	+3	Middle slope.....	78	+18
Florida Peninsula.....	82	+5	Southern slope.....	65	+10
East Gulf.....	77	+4	Southern Plateau.....	52	+16
West Gulf.....	79	+7	Middle Plateau.....	64	+4
Ohio Valley and Tennessee.....	78	+7	Northern Plateau.....	63	-3
Lower Lakes.....	78	+2	North Pacific.....	74	-1
Upper Lakes.....	79	0	Middle Pacific.....	74	0
North Dakota.....	83	+5	South Pacific.....	75	+4
Upper Mississippi Valley.....	79	+6			

Average cloudiness and departure from the normal.

Districts.	Average.	Departure from the normal.	Districts.	Average.	Departure from the normal.
New England.....	5.4	-0.3	Missouri Valley.....	5.5	-0.2
Middle Atlantic.....	6.1	+0.4	Northern slope.....	4.9	-0.5
South Atlantic.....	5.8	+0.9	Middle slope.....	6.4	+1.8
Florida Peninsula.....	5.1	+1.3	Southern slope.....	5.8	+1.4
East Gulf.....	6.4	+1.4	Southern Plateau.....	3.7	0.0
West Gulf.....	7.3	+2.2	Middle Plateau.....	6.1	+1.1
Ohio Valley and Tennessee.....	7.0	+1.0	Northern Plateau.....	5.6	-3.1
Lower Lakes.....	5.8	-0.8	North Pacific.....	4.8	-1.8
Upper Lakes.....	5.0	-1.0	Middle Pacific.....	5.6	+0.2
North Dakota.....	4.4	-1.2	South Pacific.....	6.2	+0.4
Upper Mississippi Valley.....	5.8	+0.1			

Maximum wind velocities.

Stations.	Date.	Velocity.	Direction.	Stations.	Date.	Velocity.	Direction.
Block Island, R. I.....	2	53	nw.	North Head, Wash.....	14	60	se.
Do.....	15	52	s.	Do.....	18	50	w.
Do.....	22	52	nw.	Pensacola, Fla.....	11	62	sw.
Columbia, S. C.....	15	57	sw.	Do.....	14	50	s.
El Paso, Tex.....	13	54	w.	Pt. Reyes Light, Cal.....	6	52	sw.
Hatteras, N. C.....	25	60	w.	Do.....	9	52	nw.
Modena, Utah.....	29	56	sw.	Do.....	10	50	nw.
Mt. Tamalpais, Cal.....	10	52	nw.	Do.....	11	75	s.
Do.....	21	66	ne.	Do.....	12	51	s.
Do.....	28	72	nw.	Do.....	19	75	nw.
Do.....	29	62	nw.	Do.....	20	66	nw.
Mount Weather, Va.....	9	59	nw.	Do.....	28	68	nw.
Do.....	13	53	nw.	Do.....	29	80	nw.
Do.....	15	62	nw.	Reno, Nev.....	2	58	w.
Do.....	16	66	nw.	Do.....	15	51	w.
Nantucket, Mass.....	15	53	s.	Savannah, Ga.....	12	50	se.
Do.....	29	50	s.	Southeast Farallon, Cal.....	11	58	se.
New York, N. Y.....	12	54	s.	Do.....	19	50	nw.
Do.....	13	52	nw.	Do.....	29	54	nw.
Do.....	15	78	sw.	Tatoosh Island, Wash.....	4	50	ne.
Do.....	16	58	n.				
Do.....	29	71	nw.				